

## Message Text

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16

ACTION INR-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 /020 W

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P R 111520Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

TO AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 803

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

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E.) 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR PINR CZ

SUBJECT: GOI REQUEST FOR BIOGRAPHIC INFO

REF REYKJAVIK 1077

1. A SLOVAK, CHNOUPEK WAS BORN IN 1925 IN BRATISLAVA WHERE HE ALSO COMPLETED HIS COLLEGE STUDIES. HE WORKED ON THE SLOVAK YOUTH NEWSPAPER SMENA AND IN THE EARLY 1960S WAS THE MOSCOW CORRESPONDENT OF THE SLOVAK COMMUNIST PARTY DAILY, PRAVDA. SUBSEQUENTLY HE WAS EDITOR-IN-CHIEF OF THE SLOVAK PARTY WEEKLY, PREDVOJ. FROM MARCH 1967 TO JANUARY 1969, HE SERVED AS DEPUTY MINISTER OF CULTURE AND INFORMATION. IN JUNE 1969 HE WAS APPOINTED CENTRAL DIRECTOR OF CZECHOSLOVAK RADIO.

2. IN 1966 HE BECAME A CANDIDATE MEMBER OF CZECHOSLOVAK COMMUNIST PARTY CENTRAL COMMITTEE. HE WAS MADE A FULL MEMBER IN SEPTEMBER 1969 AND RE-ELECTED AT THE MAY 1971 PARTY CONGRESS. AT THE JANUARY 1970 CENTRAL COMMITTEE PLENUM HE WAS APPOINTED TO THE PRESS COMMISSION.

3. CHNOUPEK CLEARLY DISLIKED THE REFORM MOVEMENT OF 1968. AT THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE PLENUM IN APRIL 1968 HE SAID THAT THE INTERNAL SITUATION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA WAS DETERIORATING, AND STRESSED THE DANGERS OF THE REVIVAL OF NON-COMMUNIST PARTIES. IN MAY 1969 HIS NAME APPEARED ON A MANIFESTO OF 130 JOURNALISTS WHO PROTESTED AGAINST ALLEGED MALPRACTICES IN

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CZECHOSLOVAK JOURNALISM AFTER JANUARY 1968.

4. CHNOUPEK WAS APPOINTED AMBASSADOR TO MOSCOW IN SEPTEMBER 1970 AND FOREIGN MINISTER IN DECEMBER 1971. IN HIS APPROACH TO EUROPEAN SECURITY HE COMBINES A PROFESSED BELIEF IN DETENTE WITH A RIGID VIEW OF A "CLASS-DIVIDED WORLD". HE HAS A GREAT FUND OF ENDURANCE AND IDEAS OF HIS OWN. TOO, HE IS DISTINGUISHED FROM HIS COLLEAGUES BY A VERY WINNING PERSONALITY. HE IS FRIENDLY, REASONABLE AND WITTY.

5. CHNOUPEK, WHOSE NAME IS PRONOUNCED "KHNYO-PEK" WITH ACCENT ON THE FIRST SYLLABLE, IS ADDRESSED AS "MR. MINISTER." HE HAS THREE DAUGHTERS AND ONE SON. CHNOUPEK SPEAKS RUSSIAN AND GERMAN IN ADDITION TO CZECH AND SLOVAK. HE UNDERSTANDS ENGLISH BUT DOES NOT GENERALLY SPEAK IT. CHNOUPEK WILL MOST LIKELY LEAD CZECHOSLOVAK DELEGATIONS TO 31ST UNGA IN SEPTEMBER.

6. CAN YOU GIVE US ANY FURTHER DETAILS AS TO WHOM FONMIN AGUSTSSON WILL BE SEEING?

BYRNE

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